



House District 6

Cancer Profile

August 2011

Impact of Cancer on Your Constituents

In the United States, 1 in 2 men and 1 in 3 women will develop a life threatening cancer during their lifetime. The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates that 1,529,560 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in the United States in 2010. This translates to 4,191 new diagnoses each day. Furthermore, 569,490 people in the United States are expected to die from cancer in 2010.

In South Carolina over 23,240 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in 2010 or over 64 new cancer cases each day. Furthermore 9,180 South Carolinians will die from cancer in 2010.

Table 1. Actual Cancer Cases* and Deaths in SC & House District 6, 2008

| | South Carolina | | House District 6 | |
|--------|----------------|------------|------------------|-------------|
| | New Cases | Lives Lost | New Cases | Lives Lost |
| All | 22,496 | 3,628 | 191 | 10 |
| Male | 11,947 | 2,029 | 106 | less than 5 |
| Female | 10,548 | 1,599 | 85 | 10 |
| White | 16,828 | 2,502 | 154 | 10 |
| Black | 5,223 | 1,081 | 36 | less than 5 |

*Does not include *in situ* cases, except for bladder.

As seen in Table 1 there was a total of **191** new cancer cases and **10** deaths from cancer during 2008 for District 6.

Cancers diagnosed in late stages lessen the potential for successful treatment and raise the risk of premature loss of life. Table 2 shows the percentage of cancers diagnosed in early and late stages of disease in South Carolina and in District 6.

Table 2. All Cancers by Stage of Diagnosis, 2004-2008

| | South Carolina | House District 6 |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Percent of all cancers | Percent of all cancers |
| Early Stage | 51 | 50 |
| Late Stage | 39 | 45 |
| Unknown Stage | 11 | 5 |

Costs of Cancer to Your District

Using actual cancer cases for this District and estimates from the National Institutes of Health, the overall annual cost of cancer in District 6 was **\$30.3 million**; **\$12.4 million** for direct medical costs (total of all health expenditures), **\$2.5 million** for indirect morbidity costs (lost productivity due to illness), and **\$15.4 million** for indirect mortality costs (lost productivity due to premature death).

Breast Cancer

Breast cancer was the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 19th in the nation for breast cancer deaths. There were **3,279** new female breast cancer cases diagnosed and **267** deaths during 2008 in South Carolina. District 6 had **25** new female breast cancer cases and **less than 5** breast cancer deaths in 2008.

Excellent methods of early detection are available for breast cancer. The South Carolina Best Chance Network (BCN) is a federally funded program that provides breast and cervical cancer screening, follow-up and diagnosis for low-income, uninsured women age 47-64. In 2010, they screened over **12,500** women.

Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among men in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 4th in the nation for prostate cancer deaths. For South Carolina men, **3,586**

new prostate cancer cases were diagnosed, and **189** died from the disease in 2008. In District 6 in 2008, there were **20** new prostate cancer cases with **less than 5** deaths.

The ACS recommends that men with at least a ten-year life expectancy begin prostate cancer screening at age 50 through yearly digital rectal examinations (DRE) and prostate-specific antigen (PSA) tests.

Colorectal Cancer

Colorectal cancer is the 4th most common cancer in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 23rd in the nation for colorectal cancer deaths. There were **2,115** new colorectal cancer cases and **307** colorectal cancer deaths in 2008. In District 6, there were **23** cases and **0** colorectal cancer deaths in 2008.

Currently, there are five different screening options for colorectal cancer. It is recommended that everyone, beginning at age 50, have a colonoscopy every 10 years.

Lung Cancer

Lung Cancer is the 3rd most common cancer in South Carolina; currently South Carolina ranks 10th in the nation for lung cancer deaths. In South Carolina there were **3,426** new lung cancer cases diagnosed and **1,051** lung cancer deaths in 2008. There were **38** new cases and **less than 5** lung cancer deaths in 2008 in District 6.

Oral Cancer

Oral cancer is the 9th most common cancer in South Carolina. South Carolina ranks 4th in the nation for deaths due to oral cancer. South Carolina had **571** new oral cancer cases diagnosed and **56** deaths in 2008. District 6 had **10** new cases and **0** deaths in 2008 from this preventable cancer.

Cancer Policies

The South Carolina Comprehensive Cancer Plan 2005-2010 provides a road map for statewide cancer prevention and control strategies through 2010 and is available at www.sccanceralliance.org.

South Carolina's current cigarette tax (57 cents per pack) is one of the lowest in the nation (national average \$1.45 per pack). The SC Tobacco Collaborative and its organizational

members, continue to work with the SC State Legislature to enact a reasonable tax rate for tobacco products in South Carolina.

To protect South Carolina workers from secondhand smoke, smoke-free ordinances have been passed in a growing number of areas including Columbia, Greenville, Beaufort, Aiken, and Charleston.

More than 50,000 South Carolina Medicaid recipients are now eligible for colorectal cancer screenings through a program administered by the SC Department of Health and Human Services. In 2007, the SC State Health Plan added colorectal cancer screening for its employees and their family members 50 years of age and older. In 2008, SC Blue Cross Blue Shield expanded their coverage to provide colorectal screening for its policy holders.

Note:

Data are subject to change as data sets are updated

The following suppression rules have been applied to the data in the text and tables above: (1) Counts of 1-4 are recorded as less than 5 (2) Counts of 5-9 are rounded to 10.

Resources

SC Central Cancer Registry

<http://www.scdhec.gov/co/phsis/biostatistics/SCCCR/scccrmain.htm>

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American Cancer Society

<http://www.cancer.org/Research/CancerFactsFigures/CancerFactsFigures/index>

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National Program of Cancer Registries

United States Cancer Statistics

<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/uscs/>



SC Cancer Alliance

<http://www.sccanceralliance.org/>

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